

**The original documents are located in Box 12, “7/18/75 - Film Message for the Longshoreman's Convention (Includes draft)” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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**THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....**

**FILM MESSAGE FOR THE  
LONGSHOREMAN'S CONVENTION**

**FRIDAY, JULY 18, 1975**

*Note: New p. 7  
you have ~~not~~ yet seen.*

I WANT TO THANK PRESIDENT TEDDY GLEASON FOR

INVITING ME TO ATTEND YOUR FORTY-THIRD INTERNATIONAL

LONGSHOREMEN'S ASSOCIATION CONVENTION. I REGRET NOT

BEING ABLE TO BE WITH YOU AND PRESIDENT MEANY AND THE MANY

DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF I.L.A. AT THIS YEAR'S

MEETING.

HOWEVER, I GREATLY APPRECIATE THIS OPPORTUNITY  
TO EXTEND MY BEST WISHES TO ALL OF YOU FOR A SUCCESSFUL  
AND PRODUCTIVE CONVENTION.

YOU UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF MEETING TOGETHER FOR THE  
DISCUSSION AND DECISION-MAKING THAT IS SO NECESSARY TO  
CHART YOUR ASSOCIATION'S FUTURE. WHILE OPINIONS  
MAY DIFFER, A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION IS FUNDAMENTAL TO  
ACHIEVE SOLUTIONS AND REACH GOALS.

THE PROBLEMS WE AS INDIVIDUAL CITIZENS AND AS

A NATION FACE TODAY -- THE ECONOMY, UNEMPLOYMENT,  
THE ENERGY CRISIS AND OUR INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES --  
ARE NOT SIMPLE PROBLEMS.      NOR ARE THE SOLUTIONS SIMPLE.

BUT WE FACE THESE PROBLEMS WITH CONFIDENCE.

FOR WE ARE STRONG IN SPIRIT, STRONG IN COMMITMENT,

STRONG IN FAITH.

WE ARE ALSO STRONG MILITARILY -- AND WILL STAY

THAT WAY. WE WILL NOT NEGLECT OUR NATIONAL SECURITY

DEFENSE WHILE CONCENTRATING ON DOMESTIC PROBLEMS, I CAN

ASSURE YOU OF THAT.



I CAN ASSURE YOU OF SOMETHING ELSE: THE PROVISIONS  
OF THE U.S.-RUSSIAN MARITIME AGREEMENT WILL BE HONORED.  
ONE-THIRD OF ALL GRAIN TO THE SOVIET UNION WILL BE SHIPPED  
IN AMERICAN VESSELS.

YOUR ORGANIZATION DESERVES SPECIAL PRAISE

FOR THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION RECENTLY DISPLAYED

IN REACHING MUTUAL AGREEMENT IN YOUR INDUSTRY.

YOU HAD THE FLEXIBILITY SO NECESSARY TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES

OF OPINION WITHOUT RESORTING TO THE STRIFE AND TURMOIL

WHICH IS SO DISRUPTIVE TO THE NATIONAL WELFARE.

TOGETHER, WITH A SIMILAR SPIRIT, WE CAN AND  
WILL SOLVE OUR NATIONAL PROBLEMS. WITH THE BEST INTEREST  
OF ALL AMERICANS AS OUR STANDARD AND WITH A COMMITMENT  
TO WORK TOGETHER, WE WILL PRODUCE REALISTIC AND  
COMPASSIONATE SOLUTIONS TO TODAY'S PROBLEMS.

THANK YOU, AND MY VERY BEST WISHES TO ALL OF YOU.

END OF TEXT

FILM MESSAGE FOR THE LONGSHOREMAN'S CONVENTION, FRIDAY,  
JULY 18, 1975

I want to thank President Teddy Gleason for inviting me to attend your 43rd International Longshoremen's Association Convention. I regret not being able to be with you and President Meany and the many distinguished members and guests of ILA at this year's meeting.

However, I greatly appreciate this opportunity to extend my best wishes to all of you for a successful and productive convention. You understand the importance of meeting together for the discussion and decision - making that is so necessary to chart your Association's future. While opinions may differ, a spirit of cooperation is fundamental to achieve solutions and reach goals.

The problems we as individual citizens and as a nation face today -- the economy, unemployment, the energy crisis and our international responsibilities -- are not simple problems. Nor are the solutions simple.

But we face these problems with confidence, knowing that the American spirit of cooperative enterprise will ultimately find the proper solutions. For 199 years, every generation of Americans has had its own particular set of problems to solve and with the spirit that I sense in our citizens, we will meet and solve today's problems. For we are strong in spirit, strong in commitment, strong in faith.

Your own industry deserves special praise for the spirit of cooperative enterprise recently displayed in reaching an agreement of mutual accommodation <sup>in</sup> ~~in your industry~~. You had the flexibility so necessary to resolve differences of opinion without resorting to the strife and turmoil in your industry which is so disruptive to the national welfare.

(more)

Together, with a similar spirit, we can and will solve our national problems. With the best interest of all Americans as our standard and with a commitment to work together, we will produce realistic and compassionate solutions to today's problems.

Thank you, and my very best wishes to all of you.

CLEARANCE FORM FOR PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH MATERIAL

TO: THE PRESIDENT  
VIA: ROBERT HARTMANN  
FROM: PAUL A. THEIS *PT*  
SUBJECT: Film Message for the Longshoreman's  
Convention

TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF PRESIDENTIAL USE: \_\_\_\_\_

2:45 p.m., Friday, July 18, The White House

SPEECHWRITER: Lukstadt (Dept. of Labor)

EDITED BY: Rousek/Theis

BASIC RESEARCH/SPEECH MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY:

Department of Labor

CLEARED BY (Please initial):

- ( ) OPERATIONS (Rumsfeld) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) CONGRESSIONAL/PUBLIC LIAISON (Marsh) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) PRESS (Nessen) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) LEGAL (Buchen) \_\_\_\_\_
- (X) ECONOMIC POLICY BOARD (Seidman) *WLS* \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (Lynn) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) DOMESTIC COUNCIL (Cannon) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL (Scowcroft) \_\_\_\_\_
- (X) RESEARCH (Waldron) *MB* \_\_\_\_\_
- (X) MARGITA WHITE (FYI) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) ENERGY RESOURCES COUNCIL (Zarb) \_\_\_\_\_
- (X) COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS (Greenspan) \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON (Baroody) \_\_\_\_\_
- (X) JERRY JONES (FYI) \_\_\_\_\_
- (X) TED MARRS *T. Marrs* \_\_\_\_\_
- (X) Secretary Dunlop *DL* \_\_\_\_\_